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As to any occurrences, w'h may have fallen in the circle of your acquaintance, I leive them to your sisters, & other correspondents, who will detail them more exactly than I can.

Present my love to your wife, & assure yourself that I am most sincerely yours

(signed) Robert Beverley

Blandfield 22' Aug. 1794.

Will you enquire of M'r John Page why his brother has not sent my annual pipe of red port—it is a disappointment for madeira is now so dutied as to suit very few purses in this country—

That my may fit me as well as possible, I have taken a measure according to taylors directions, w'h will be found in the leg of the old boot, by comparing them both with orders, perhaps they may be made to fit me. I likewise beg that you will send me a saddle of the best materials; the underskirt to be longer than usual & the padding to extend with half an inch of the lowest part of the skirt—& this padding to be very thick—I am thus particular, because you must remember how very much we are incommoded with sweat in the summer. Plain steel stirrups & buckles, no crupper—a bridle with two bits; no heavy or unnecessary work, & the reins not broad.

I wish to have everything made of the best & plainest materials—two flannel saddle cloths. You will recollect that our horses, generally, are not so wide upon the withers as in England—six yards of spare girting.

I should be glad of my boots by the first opportunity, as I am much in need of them—

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

POINDEXTER FAMILY.

(CONTINUED.)

SKETCHES OF LOUISA IN OLDEN TIMES.

NUMBER 7.

As already stated Thomas Poindexter left seven Sons viz., John, James, Robert, Thomas, Richard, Gabriel and George Poindexter. His oldest son, John, was born in this county and brought up in the clerk's office under the instruction of John Nelson who was appointed clerk of the court in 1766, succeeding James Littlepage and held the office during the remainder of his life.

I shall have something more to say of Nelson hereafter. John Poindexter entered the clerk's office in 1773 and served under Nelson until 1790, when the latter dying, Poindexter was elected in his place by the Justices composing the County Court.

During his service in the clerk's office other young men were with him learning the business of clerks, among them (though much

older) was Mr. John Timberlake, the first clerk of Fluvanna (1777,) who held the office between thirty and forty years, and was then succeeded by one of his sons. I shall say nothing as to the Timberlakes as their connection with the county so far as the subject of these sketches is concerned terminated with Mr. John Timberlake's connection in the clerk's office under John Nelson. John Poindexter held the office of clerk of the County Court of Louisa down to the 28th day of September 1820 on which day he died. He also held the office of clerk of the Circuit Court of Law from the formation of that court till his death. For this period of thirty years no man acted a more prominent and conspicuous part in all matters relating to the county than John Poindexter.

The idea prevailed then as it does now that the clerks of the courts knew everything in relation to legal proceedings, and hence he seems to have prepared wills, deeds etc., to a very great extent, showing the confidence the people had in him, and as far as the records show (and I have no doubt truly) that confidence was never abused by him.

In 1790 he attached himself to the Baptist church being baptised on the 29th of June and was ordained to the ministry in that denomination on the 3rd. of February 1792, and was chosen pastor of the Baptist Church at "The Roundabout" in April of that year, and continued that relation down to at least the 30 of May 1814, and how much longer I am unable to say with accuracy.

The Roundabout church was situated about eight miles south of Louisa C. H. It was burned down during the lifetime of John Poindexter or soon after his death and has never been rebuilt. Only a few persons of this generation recollect where the church stood.

He served other churches for over a period of twenty-five years, but about this I do not purpose to say any thing as his services as a Baptist Minister are stated in the "Virginia Baptist Ministers."

He was married three times. His first wife was a Miss Green by whom he had only one child, William G. Poindexter, who died many years ago leaving descendants; among them the present wife of the Hon. A. R. Holladay of Henrico County, Va., and the late Henry Poindexter whom every one in this County well remembers as one of the best informed, social, genial, and good natured men. He deserves to have a better tribute paid him than can be done in these sketches. The writer is only saying something in reference to the "Old Time Men."

John Poindexter's second wife was a Miss Johnson by whom he had the following children, viz: Nicholas, John, Thomas, Andrew, Waller, Lucy Jones (who died unmarried) and Mary, who married Garrett M. Quarles. The descendants of this marriage now reside in Kentucky and Tennessee. Two of them have been greatly distinguished and have been honored by their respective States filling most important offices. Nicholas removed to the State of Kentucky and died there many years ago, leaving children. Among the sons he left was George Gilmer Poindexter one of the most promising and rising young men in

all that Country at the time of his death. Thomas died in Virginia leaving children, two sons and a daughter.

He married a Miss Schooler, near Fredericksburg, Va. Andrew died in this County unmarried. Waller was married to a Miss Talley of Goochland County, and removed to Kentucky where he died years ago, leaving children; their names are not known to me. John is still living in Kentucky, now an old man, and if these sketches should fall under his eye, he might supply much in reference to the Poindexters that the writer has left out for want of accurate information.

John Poindexter's third wife was Margaret Maer of N. C. to whom he was married in 1813, leaving by this marriage one daughter, Mrs. Frances E. Thompson who now resides at Louisa Court House. His last wife survived him some thirty years and died at the place now owned by Mrs. A. W. Talley, in 1850. The writer of these sketches was at the funeral discourse which was delivered by the Rev. Mr. Mylne and pronounced by an old college friend who was with him at the time to be one of the best discourses he had ever listened to. Mr. Mylne and his college friend have both passed away to that "Undiscovered Country" (This by the way.)

Elder John Poindexter, (I will thus call him to distinguish him) was a gentleman of the most decided character with a strong and vigorous intellect tinged to a great extent with the prevailing ideas of the day as is fully shown by all his writings now extant.

As a clerk he was a faithful and efficient officer as the records fully testify; not however drawn with the same accuracy of expression and preciseness as those under Littlepage's administration many years before.

I take it that his ministerial duties engrossed a good deal of his time and that in making up his records he was more impressed with the substance than the forms of his entries in the records.

This can however be said that the "Records of the Court" under this administration would compare very favorably with many of the present day in this State.

During John Poindexter's clerkship the clerk's office for a portion of the time was kept at his house which is now the residence of Capt. Wm. Meade a grandson of Bishop Meade, and known as "Winston Hall". Afterwards it was kept at the present residence of A. H. Talley where Poindexter lived and died. He removed from "Winston Hall" to this place. For several years before the present Courthouse was built (1817) the clerk's office was kept in a room of the old jail which I mentioned in a former number as having been burned in (1866) I shall say something of the brothers of Elder John Poindexter hereafter.

Copied by A. B. Mitchell,

Port Royal, Va.

Feby 25th, 1887.

(TO BE CONTINUED)